

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-59. (Canceled).

60. (Previously presented) A process for the modification or the treatment of a surface of a device to render at least one surface of said device protein-resistant, comprising the step of:

coating said surface with a composition comprising at least one polymeric micelle comprising a hydrophilic, neutral corona and a complex coacervate core formed by charge complexation,

wherein the polymeric micelle comprises oppositely-charged first and second polymers,

wherein said first polymer comprises a block polymer comprising an ionic block and a hydrophilic neutral block, and

further wherein said ionic block comprises at least 6 chargeable groups.

61. (Previously presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the surface modification or surface treatment prevents bacteria proliferation, disinfects, suppresses odours, prevents malodour, or provides easy-cleaning or soil-release properties.

62. (Previously presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the ionic block comprises polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof.

63. (Previously presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the hydrophilic neutral block comprises a polyethylene glycol or a polyacrylamide, or a combination thereof.

64. (Previously presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the second polymer comprises a homopolymer, a random copolymer, a block polymer, a natural polymer, or a derivative or mixture thereof.

65. (Previously presented) The process of claim 64, wherein the homopolymer comprises polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof.

66. (Previously presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the surface modification or surface treatment reduces or prevents protein adsorption and/or anti-fouling.

67. (Previously presented) The process of claim 61, wherein said composition comprises a home-care, fabric-care, institutional-cleaning, or industrial-cleaning composition.

68. (Previously presented) A process for modifying or treating a surface of a device to render at least one surface of said device protein-resistant, comprising the step of:

(i) mixing at least a first and a second polymer in amounts such that the ratio of total number of cationic polymeric groups to total number of charged groups in the resulting mixture ranges from 0.2 to 0.8,

wherein the first and the second polymer are oppositely charged and

wherein the first polymer comprises a block polymer comprising at least a hydrophilic neutral block and an ionic block comprising at least 6 chargeable groups; and

(ii) contacting said surface with said resulting mixture under aqueous conditions,

wherein the salt concentration in both steps is less than 1 M.

69. (Previously presented) The process of claim 68, wherein the ionic block comprises polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof.

70. (Previously presented) The process of claim 68, wherein the hydrophilic neutral block comprises a polyethylene glycol, a polyglycerylmethacrylate, a polyacrylamide, or a combination thereof.

71. (Previously presented) The process of claim 68, wherein the second polymer comprises a homopolymer, a random copolymer, a block polymer, a natural polymer, or a derivative or mixture thereof.

72 (Previously presented) The process of claim 71, wherein the homopolymer comprises polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof.

73. (Previously presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the first polymer comprises at least 40 chargeable groups.

74. (Previously presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the second polymer comprises at least 100 charged monomeric units.

75. (Previously presented) The process of claim 68, wherein the first polymer comprises at least 40 chargeable groups.

76. (Previously presented) The process of claim 68, wherein the second polymer comprises at least 100 charged monomeric units.

77. (Previously presented) A process for the modification or the treatment of a surface of a device to render at least one surface of said device protein-resistant, comprising the step of:
coating said surface with a composition comprising at least one polymeric micelle comprising a hydrophilic, neutral corona and a complex coacervate core formed by charge complexation,

wherein the polymeric micelle comprises oppositely-charged first and second polymers,
wherein said first polymer comprises a block polymer comprising an ionic block and a hydrophilic neutral block, and

further wherein said ionic block comprises at least 6 chargeable groups and comprises polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof, and

further wherein the hydrophilic neutral block comprises a polyethylene glycol, a polyacrylamide, or a combination thereof, and

further wherein the second polymer comprises a homopolymer comprising polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof.

78. (Previously presented) A process for modifying or treating a surface of a device to render at least one surface of said device protein-resistant, comprising the step of:

(i) mixing at least a first and a second polymer in amounts such that the ratio of total number of cationic polymeric groups to total number of charged groups in the resulting mixture ranges from 0.2 to 0.8,

wherein the first and the second polymer are oppositely charged and

wherein the first polymer comprises a block polymer comprising at least a hydrophilic neutral block and an ionic block comprising at least 6 chargeable groups; and

(ii) contacting said surface with said resulting mixture under aqueous conditions,

wherein the salt concentration in both steps is less than 1 M,

further wherein said ionic block comprises at least 6 chargeable groups and comprises polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof, and

further wherein the hydrophilic neutral block comprises a polyethylene glycol, a polyacrylamide, or a combination thereof, and

further wherein the second polymer comprises a homopolymer comprising polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, poly-(dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate), poly(N-alkyl-4-vinylpyridinium), or mixtures thereof.